

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

***Claims 1-14 (cancelled).***

15. (Currently Amended) A component mounting apparatus comprising:

a pair of first and second component supply tables for accommodating a first plurality of components, said first and second component supply tables being arranged adjacent to and on opposite both sides of a board mounting position transfer path, respectively, each of said first and second component supply tables being supported on casters so as to be movable between support frames toward and away from the a respective side of the a board mounting position; and replaceable by being removed from the respective side of the board mounting position so that a new component supply table for accommodating a second plurality of components can be positioned in place of the removed component supply table; and

a first mounting head section for successively picking up components at one of the said first component supply tables table, thereafter moving to a board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the picked-up components onto the board while moving in first and second directions which are perpendicular to each other; ; and

~~wherein the first direction is perpendicular to a board transfer direction in which the board is transferred, and the second direction is located along the board transfer direction;~~

a second mounting head section for successively picking up components at the other of the at said second component supply tables table, thereafter moving to the board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the picked-up components onto the board while moving in third and fourth directions which are perpendicular to each other,

~~wherein the third direction is parallel to the first direction, and the fourth direction is parallel to the second direction but is not necessarily the same direction as the second direction;~~

~~wherein each of the first and second mounting head sections is independently movable between one of the component supply tables and the board;~~

wherein the first direction and the second direction define a plane that is parallel with the board transfer path, with the first direction being perpendicular to the board transfer path, and

wherein the third direction and the fourth direction define a plane that is parallel with the board transfer path, with the third direction being perpendicular to the board transfer path, the first and third directions being parallel with one another, and the second and fourth directions being parallel with one another.

16. (Currently Amended) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each of ~~the~~ said first and second component supply tables is selected from one of:

a component supply table provided with component supply means comprised of parts cassettes provided with reels;

a component supply table provided with stick-shaped component supply means at which components stored in a pipe member are successively fed to a take-out position;

a component supply table on which bulk components are placed; and

a tray-shaped component supply table.

17. (Currently Amended) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 16, wherein component take-out positions of ~~the~~ said first and second component supply tables are positioned along a straight line extending along a the board transfer path ~~along which the board is transferred.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A component mounting apparatus comprising:

a base structure;

a pair of first and second inverted U-shaped support frames positioned on said base structure in a parallel relationship and on opposite sides of a board mounting position, wherein a board transfer path extends through openings in said first and second inverted U-shaped support frames;

a first component supply table supported on a plurality of casters and removably secured between said first and second inverted U-shaped support frames on a first side of the board transfer path; ;

a second component supply table supported on a plurality of casters and removably secured between said first and second inverted U-shaped support frames on a second side of the board transfer path, wherein each of said first and second component supply tables accommodates a plurality of components, and wherein each of said first and second component supply tables can be moved in a perpendicular direction toward and away from the board transfer path;

a first mounting head section for successively picking up a plurality of components at the said first component supply table, thereafter moving to a board positioned at the board mounting position, and ~~thereafter~~ successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board while moving in first and second ~~perpendicular~~ directions which are perpendicular to each other, ~~wherein the first direction is perpendicular to the board transfer direction; ; and~~

a second mounting head section for successively picking up a plurality of components at the said second ~~of the~~ component supply table, thereafter moving to the board positioned at the board mounting position, and ~~thereafter~~ successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board while moving in third and fourth directions which are perpendicular to each other, ~~wherein the third direction is parallel to the first direction;~~

wherein ~~the~~ said first and second mounting head sections are independently movable between the board and the said first and second component supply tables, respectively, when the board is at the board mounting position,

wherein the first direction and the second direction define a plane that is parallel with the board transfer path, with the first direction being perpendicular to the board transfer path, and

wherein the third direction and the fourth direction define a plane that is parallel with the board transfer path, with the third direction being perpendicular to the board transfer path, the first and third directions being parallel with one another, and the second and fourth directions being parallel with one another.

19. (Currently Amended) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein each of the said first and second component supply tables is provided with component supply means comprised of parts cassettes provided with reels, and when one of ~~the~~ said first and second

component supply tables does not have components required for a mounting operation, it can be replaced with a new component supply table provided with the required components.

20. (Currently Amended) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 15, wherein, when the components are mounted on a plurality of types of boards, one of the said first and second component supply tables, having components required for one of the types of boards, is used for the one type of board while the other of the said first and second component supply tables is provided with components required for one of the other types of boards.

21. (Currently Amended) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the said first component supply table is provided with a plurality of cassettes, and if components required for a mounting operation are not contained in the cassettes, the said first component supply table can be replaced with a new component supply table having cassettes that are provided with the required components.

22. (Currently Amended) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the said first component supply table is provided with components that are to be mounted on a first type of board, and the said second component supply table is provided with components that are to be mounted on a second type of board so that mounting operations can be conducted on the first and second types of boards.

23. (Currently Amended) A component mounting apparatus comprising:  
a base structure;  
~~a pair of~~ first and second inverted U-shaped support frames positioned on said base structure in a parallel relationship and on opposite sides of a board mounting position, wherein a board transfer path extends through openings in said first and second inverted U-shaped support frames;

a first component supply table supported on a plurality of casters, said first component supply table being removably secured between said first and second inverted U-shaped support frames on a first side of the board transfer path;

a second component supply table supported on a plurality of casters, said second component supply table being removably secured between said first and second inverted U-shaped support frames on a second side of the board transfer path, wherein each of said first and second component supply tables accommodates a plurality of components, and wherein each of said first and second component supply tables can be moved in a perpendicular direction toward and away from the board transfer path;

a first mounting head section for successively picking up a plurality of components at said first component supply table, thereafter moving to a board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board; and

a second mounting head section for successively picking up a plurality of components at the said second ~~of the~~ component supply table, thereafter moving to the board positioned at the board mounting position, and thereafter successively mounting the plurality of picked-up components onto the board,

wherein each of the said first and second mounting head sections is capable of moving in first and second directions which are perpendicular to each other and define a plane that is parallel with the board transfer path, with the first direction being perpendicular to the board transfer path.

24. (Previously Added) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said first component supply table is provided with a plurality of cassettes.

25. (Previously Added) The component mounting apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said first component supply table is provided with components that are to be mounted on a first type of board, and said second component supply table is provided with components that are to be mounted on a second type of board which is different from the first type of board.